

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF WAR,

TRANSMITTING

Estimates of appropriation required, with tracings of plans, for the construction of officers' quarters at Omaha, Nebr.

JANUARY 12, 1880.—Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and ordered to be printed, with accompanying documents.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, January 12, 1880.

The Secretary of War has the honor to transmit to the Senate estimates of appropriation required, amounting to \$77,403.48, with tracings of plans for the construction of officers' quarters at Fort Omaha, Neb.

The necessity for the buildings and the propriety of this expenditure are evidenced in the accompanying communication from the department commander, which bears the indorsement of the General of the Army, stating, "I approve of the plans and estimates of General Crook, as Omaha is, in my opinion, likely to be a depot and a post of reserve for many years."

The law forbids erection of permanent barracks, &c., without special appropriation and sanction of Congress (see section 1136, Revised Statutes).

In view of the premises, I recommend that these estimates be favorably considered by Congress.

ALEX. RAMSEY,
Secretary of War.

Papers inclosed.

Tracings of plans for lieutenant-colonels' or majors' quarters.

Tracings of plans for captains' quarters.

Estimate for one building for lieutenant-colonels' or majors' quarters.

Estimate for one building for captains' quarters.

Copy of letter of chief quartermaster, Department of the Platte, dated June 26, 1879.

Copy of indorsement of commanding general, Department of the Platte, of June 28, 1879.

Copy of indorsement of chief quartermaster, Military Division of Missouri, of July 3, 1879.

Estimate of War Department for all the buildings.

Estimate of material and labor required to erect and complete one building of brick for lieutenant-colonels' or majors' quarters (Class III), at Fort Omaha, Nebr., in accordance with the plans accompanying.

Mason:		
500 cubic yards excavating.....	\$110 00	
304,000 brick and stone in walls, mason's measure.....	3,611 60	
1,679 square yards lath and plaster.....	503 70	
		\$4,225
Carpenter:		
8,120 feet, board measure, lumber in floor-joists and bridging, worked.....	221 52	
5,180 feet, board measure, flooring, laid.....	194 03	
2,691 feet, board measure, wall-plates, centering and furring, worked.....	145 47	
8,513 feet, board measure, ceiling-joists, rafters, lookouts, and braces, worked.....	315 78	
1,950 feet, board measure, dimension lumber in partition walls, worked.....	66 71	
52 squares of roof sheeted and shingled, complete.....	394 82	
572 lineal feet cornice, complete.....	295 00	
2 porches, complete.....	200 00	
11 squares wainscoting, worked.....	56 61	
9 squares ceiling, worked.....	40 00	
1 pair double front doors, transom, complete.....	35 00	
6 side doors, transoms, jambs, casings, complete.....	90 00	
22 inside doors, jambs, casings, complete.....	264 00	
13 basement windows, complete.....	65 00	
30 windows, blinds, complete.....	450 00	
980 lineal feet base, worked.....	91 10	
1 main stairs, complete.....	100 00	
1 attic stairs, complete.....	15 00	
1 basement stairs, complete.....	13 00	
		3,053 04
Tinner:		
10 squares tin roofing.....	90 00	
7 down spouts.....	36 00	
2 cut-offs.....	8 00	
163 lineal feet tin guttering.....	32 60	
		166 60
Painter:		
639 square yards painting.....	191 70	
25 square yards graining.....	12 50	
10 squares roof painting.....	12 50	
		216 70
Plumber:		
Bath-tub, sink, and pipes, in place.....	60 00	
		60 00
Mantels:		
4 mantels.....	120 00	
		120
		\$7,841 64

Estimate of material and labor required to erect and complete one building of brick for captains' quarters (Class IV), at Fort Omaha, Nebr., in accordance with the plans accompanying.

Mason:		
470 cubic yards excavating.....	\$117 50	
285,000 brick and stone in walls, mason's measure.....	3,719 00	
1,725 square yards lath and plaster.....	517 50	
		4,354 00
Carpenter:		
11,366 feet, board measure, lumber in floor and ceiling joists and bridging, worked.....	321 21	
4,950 feet, board measure, flooring, laid.....	189 19	
1,700 feet, board measure, dimension lumber in partition walls, worked.....	38 76	
40 squares sheeting and shingle roof-framing, complete....	546 03	

528 lineal feet cornice, complete	290 40	
2 porches, complete	200 00	
8 squares wainscoting, worked	38 15	
510 feet, board measure, ceiling, worked	20 76	
1 pair double front doors, transoms, complete	33 00	
4 side doors, transoms, complete	60 00	
24 inside doors, complete	288 00	
11 basement windows, plain frame, complete	55 00	
26 windows, blinds, complete	390 00	
958 lineal feet base, complete	89 05	
1 main stairs, complete	90 00	
1 attic stairs, complete	14 00	
1 basement stairs	12 00	
		2,675 55
Tinner:		
9 squares tin work	81 00	
5 down spouts	31 20	
2 cut-offs	8 00	
150 lineal feet guttering	30 00	
		150 20
Painter:		
610 square yards painting	183 00	
20 square yards graining	10 00	
9 squares roof painting	11 25	
		204 25
Plumber:		
Bath-tub, sink, and pipe, in place	60 00	
		60 00
Mantels:		
2 mantels	60 00	
		60 00
Total		\$7,504 00

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE,
CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
Fort Omaha, Nebr., June 26, 1879.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL,

Department of the Platte:

SIR: In compliance with verbal instructions of the department commander, I have the honor to submit herewith plans, with estimates of cost, for lieutenant-colonels', or majors', and captains' quarters for officers of the staff at this post. These plans are copies of those submitted by the board of officers appointed last summer to prepare plans for headquarters' office building and officers' quarters.

The estimate submitted at that time for these quarters was very hurriedly made and was not large enough.

The estimates herewith submitted show cost for *brick* as follows:

Lieutenant-colonels' and majors' quarters,	\$7,841 64
Captains' and lieutenants' quarters	7,504 00

And of *frame* as follows:

Lieutenant-colonels' and majors' quarters	\$6,733 67
Captains' and lieutenants' quarters	5,911 22

In my opinion brick quarters are not only much better for this climate, but are cheaper in the end.

The number of staff-officers at present for whom quarters should be built is as follows:

Lieutenant-colonels and majors	7
Captains and lieutenants	3

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. I. LUDINGTON,
Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE,
Fort Omaha, Nebr., June 28, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded through the office of the assistant adjutant-general, United States Army, Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, to the Adjutant-General of the Army, Washington, D. C.

The General of the Army, when here last year, promised me \$20,000 a year for the construction of these quarters; and I ask that this amount at least, if the whole amount required cannot now be spared, may be at once furnished.

It is undoubtedly best and more economical to build the quarters of brick, as recommended by the chief quartermaster of the department herein.

Although the quarters at present occupied by the staff have been patched up in the best manner possible, yet the timber and brick in them are so decayed that they are little more than habitable—in some cases they are unsafe.

I therefore recommend most urgently that funds be supplied, so that the work may be at once commenced.

GEORGE CROOK,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
ORDINANCE CORPS AND DEPARTMENT QUARTERMASTER,
Chicago, July 3, 1879.

Respectfully returned to the assistant adjutant-general of the division. The aggregate cost of the buildings herein asked for will be:

If of brick	\$77,403 48
If frame	64,869 35

I recommend approval, and that the required funds be asked of Congress, if they cannot be furnished from the general appropriation without detriment to the general purposes for which that appropriation is made.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Colonel and Assistant Quartermaster General,
Bvt. Major-General, United States Army, Chief Quartermaster.

Estimates of appropriations required for the service by the War Department.

Detailed objects of expenditure and explanations.	Total amount to be appropriated under each head of appropriation.
<p><i>Buildings for officers' quarters at Fort Omaha, Nebraska.</i></p> <p>Construction of seven buildings, of brick, for lieutenant-colonels' and majors' quarters, at \$7,841.64 each, and three buildings of brick for majors' quarters, at \$7,504 each, at Fort Omaha, Nebraska, in accordance with estimates and tracings of plans transmitted to the Senate and House of Representatives in the communication of the Secretary of War, dated January 12, 1880.</p>	\$77,403 48



Gen. Ex. 38.

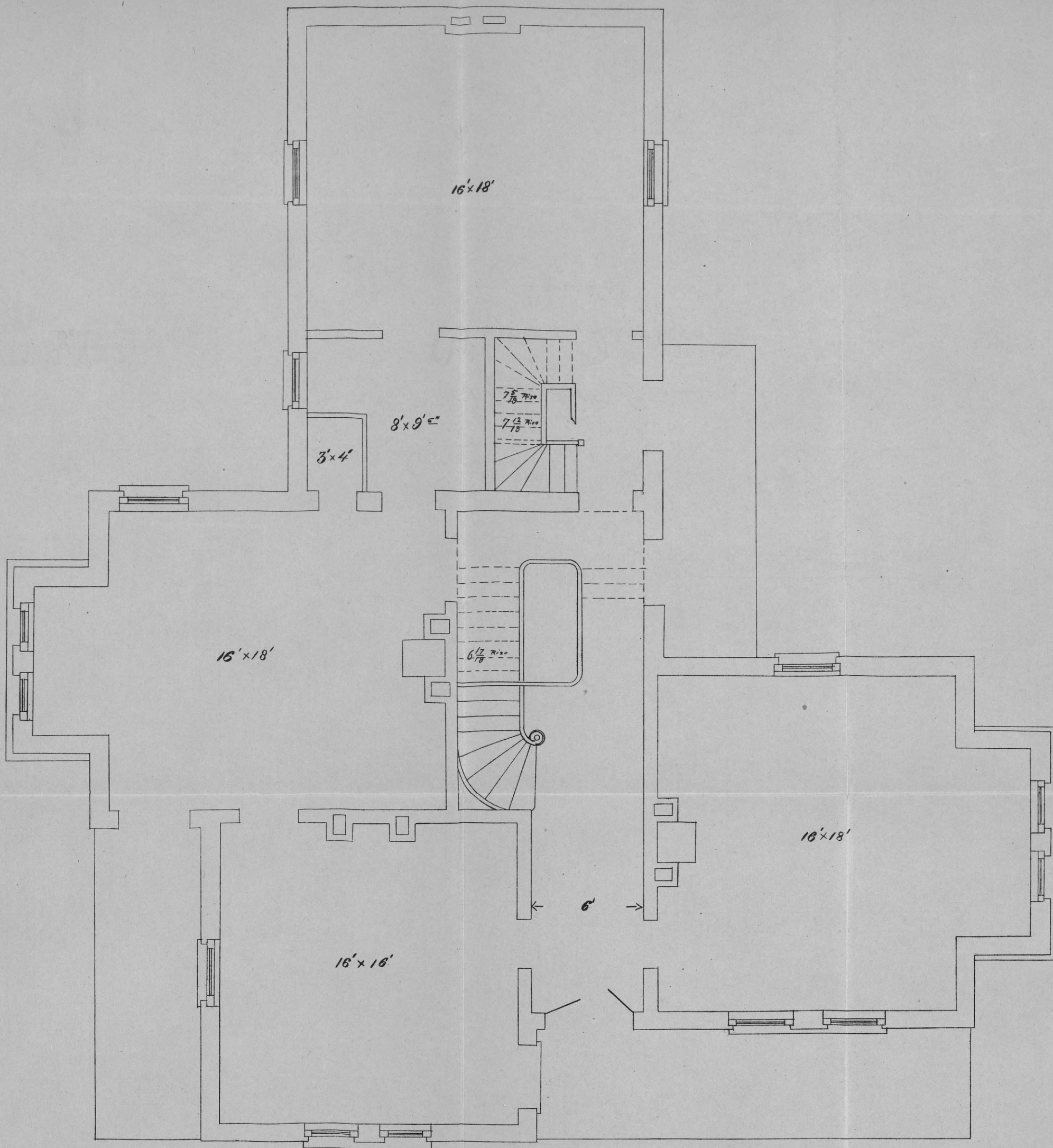
Front Elevation
Officer's Quarters.
Class III.



Gen. Ex. 38.

Side Elevation
 Officer's Quarters.
 Class III.

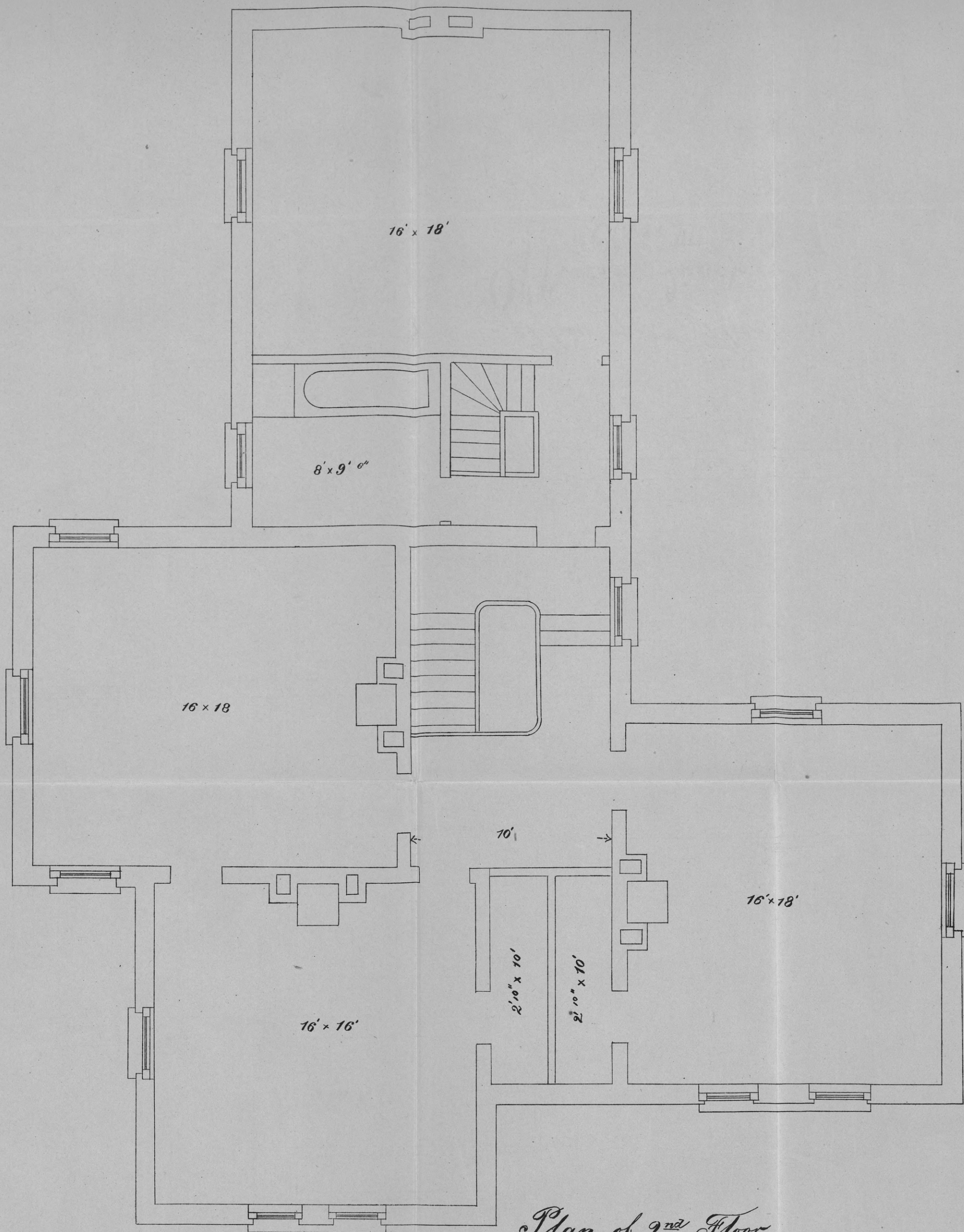
2' 0"
 9' 8"
 1' 0"
 9' 6"
 1' 8"
 8' 0"
 Cellar Bottom



Plan of 1st Floor.
 Officer's Quarters.
 Class III.

Drawn in Office of
 Chief Quartermaster
 Department of the Platts
 VIII-17-1878.
 G.W. Field
 Draughtsman.

Sen. Ex. 38.



Sen. Ex. 38.

Plan of 2nd Floor.
 Officer's Quarters.
 Class III



Front Elevation

Officer's Quarters.
Class IV.

Drawn in Office of
Chief Quartermaster
Department of the Platte
III - 17 - 1878.
G.W. Field
Draughtsman.

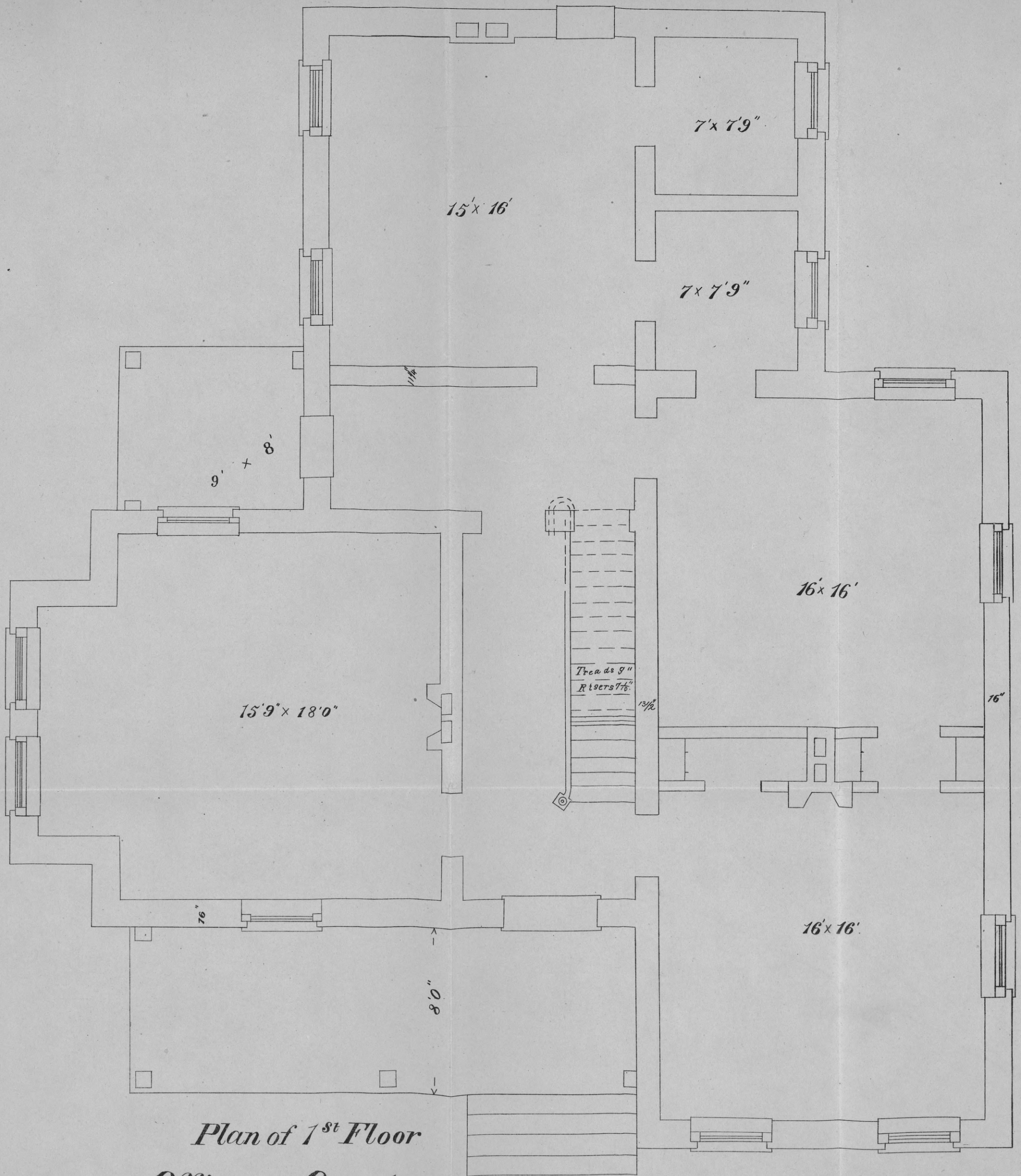
Sen. Ex. '8.



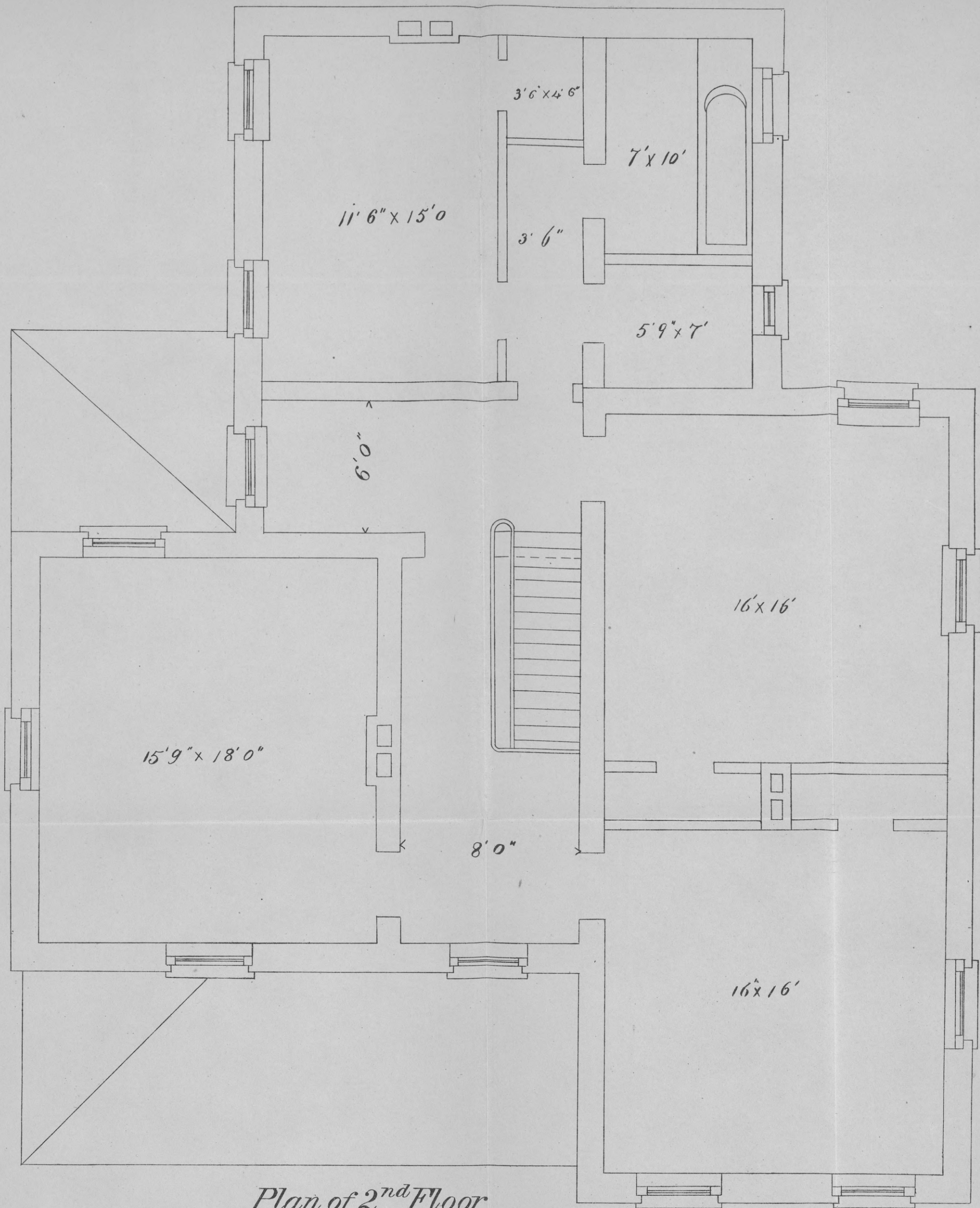
Gen. Ex. 38.

Side Elevation
Officer's Quarters
Class IV.

Natural Surface of Ground



*Plan of 1st Floor
Officers Quarters
Class IV.*



*Plan of 2nd Floor
Officers Quarters
Class IV.*

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF WAR,

TRANSMITTING

Additional information relative to construction of quarters for officers at Fort Omaha, Nebr.

FEBRUARY 16, 1880.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, February 12, 1880.

SIR: Referring to my letter of January 12, 1880, transmitting to the Senate plans and estimates for construction of quarters for officers at Fort Omaha, Nebr., which were referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, I now forward copies of reports from officers of the Quartermaster's Department, representing that, owing to the advance in the prices of building materials, the estimate of June 26, 1879, should be increased.

In view of these reports, I recommend the appropriation of \$96,754.36 for the construction of the buildings, instead of \$77,403.48, heretofore reported.

ALEX. RAMSEY,
Secretary of War.

The PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

Papers inclosed.

- Copy of letter from chief quartermaster Department of the Platte, January 21, 1880.
- Copy of indorsement of commanding general Department of the Platte, January 23, 1880.
- Copy of indorsement of chief quartermaster Military Division of Missouri, January 28, 1880.
- Copy of indorsement of Adjutant-General, February 3, 1880.
- Copy of indorsement of Acting Quartermaster-General, February 7, 1880.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE,
CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
Fort Omaha, Nebr., January 21, 1880.

SIR: Referring to communication of this office of June 26, 1879, transmitting to your office plans with estimates of cost for lieutenant-colonels', majors', and captains' quarters for officers of the staff at these headquarters, I have the honor to state that since July last the cost of nearly all building materials has advanced largely, and in some items is double

what it was when the estimates were made. The cost of mechanical labor is also advancing. I think it may safely be said that the increased cost of construction is at least 25 per cent. Under such conditions the estimates of cost submitted will not suffice to erect the said buildings.

As it is understood that the Hon. Secretary of War has recommended that an appropriation be granted by Congress to construct said buildings on the basis of the estimates of cost submitted, it is considered advisable that the matter of the large advance in cost of construction be brought to his attention, with the request that an increase of the appropriation from \$77,403.48 to \$96,754.36 (being 25 per cent.), be asked of Congress.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. I. LUDINGTON,
Chief Quartermaster.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Department of the Platte, Fort Omaha, Nebr.

[Indorsements.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE,
Fort Omaha, Nebr., January 23, 1880.

Respectfully forwarded through the office of the assistant adjutant-general, United States Army, headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, to the Adjutant-General of the Army, Washington, D. C. Approved.

GEORGE CROOK,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
Chicago, January 28, 1880.

Respectfully returned to the assistant adjutant-general of the division, concurring in the recommendation of the chief quartermaster Department of the Platte.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Col. and Asst. Quartermaster-General, Bvt. Major-General, U. S. A., C. Q. M.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, February 3, 1880.

Respectfully referred to the Quartermaster-General in connection with previous papers referred November 6 and December 30, 1879.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, February 7, 1880.

Respectfully submitted to the Hon. Secretary of War, together with the previous papers in the case.

On the 12th ultimo the Secretary transmitted to both House and Senate an estimate of \$77,403.48, with tracings of plans for the construction of officers' quarters at Fort Omaha, Nebr., and asked favorable consideration. From information now received it appears that, owing to advance in prices of building materials, that estimate should be increased to \$96,754.36. This increased estimate is approved by the department commander and division quartermaster, no comment being made upon the papers in passing through division headquarters.

STEWART VAN VLIET,
Acting Quartermaster-General, U. S. A.